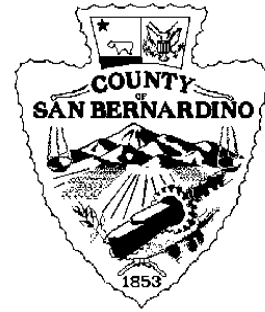


ELECTION NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2003

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EMERGENCY VOTING FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2003 ELECTION

Some polling places in San Bernardino County will not be able to open on Election Day due to the many evacuations caused by the catastrophic fires currently devastating the county. Scott Konopasek, Registrar of Voters, announced that his office will be setting up several emergency voting sites that will be co-located with evacuation centers in the fire-affected areas. "This is the only opportunity that many, many people will have to vote", said Mr. Konopasek. He added that all polling places that are not directly affected by the fires will still be open on Election Day.

Beginning today, any registered San Bernardino County voter may go to the Registrar of Voters' office located at 777 East Rialto Avenue in San Bernardino or one of the following emergency voting site to cast their ballot between now and Election Day: Fontana – Jesse Turner Community Center at 6396 Citrus Avenue; San Bernardino International Airport in San Bernardino; and Hesperia High School at 9898 Maple Avenue in Hesperia. Additional emergency sites are planned for Apple Valley. Information on emergency voting locations will be available on the Registrar of Voters' website at: www.sbcrov.com or by calling 909-387-8300 or 800-881-8683.

The emergency sites will be open from 9-5 p.m. every day through Monday, November 3, except Sunday. They will also be open, along with all available regular polling places from 7 am until 8 pm on Election Day.

Reasons for this extraordinary measure include the day-to-day uncertainty of where the fire will move next; displaced voters; loss of polling places and poll workers; lost, burned or left-behind absentee ballots; limited access to some areas for supply delivery; and the knowledge that at least 14 zip code areas do not have mail delivery at this time. More sites will be added as needed.

"I want to make sure that every voter in our county still has the opportunity to cast their ballot despite the dislocations and tremendous uncertainty of the current situation", said Mr. Konopasek.